

22 July, 1988

General Muhammad Zia-ul-Haq,
President of Pakistan,
President House
Rawalpindi.

Excellency,

Assalamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullah wa Barakatahu,

The Islamic Council has always greatly admired and respected you for your courageous and unflinching support for the Afghan cause. There is no doubt that but for your historic role, the story of the Afghan freedom struggle would have been quite different. This fact is recognised far and wide.

The Afghan freedom struggle is about to enter a new stage. It is understood that Mujahideen are planning to announce an Islamic government to replace the Soviet-imposed government in Afghanistan.

Anticipating this, the Islamic Council has started lobbying for the recognition of the new government and for international assistance to the task of rebuilding Afghanistan's shattered economy, agriculture, and infrastructure.

As a part of this effort, we intend to invite a number of eminent Muslim personalities, who enjoy

international reputation and prestige, for a public meeting in Islamabad or Peshawar, in cooperation with the Mujahideen leadership.

We have two goals in mind: One, to mobilize public opinion for the recognition of the Islamic government under the aegis of the Mujahideen; and two, to support the Islamisation programme in Pakistan, especially the recently promulgated Shariat ordinance, which seeks to make Shariah the Supreme law of the land.

I would be most grateful to know your views about the proposal as well as any advice or suggestion you may have about it.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Salem Azzam

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Secretary General